



INDIANA EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Family Engagement Workgroup

Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: July 18, 2014

MEMBERS

Kevin Bain

Melanie Brizzi

Charlie Geier

Beckie Minglin

Tammy Veselsky

Alonzo Weems

ADVISORY MEMBERS

John Burnett

Connie Sherman

Attendees:

Chris Whitmire, Keith Reissaus, Sharon Pierce, Jen Drake, Deanna Wilkerson, Anita Allison, Nathan Williamson, Wylie Sirk, Debbie Beeler, Jennifer Mohr, Deborah Chubb, Tonya Williams, Michael Conn-Powers

Key Topics Discussed:

1. Review recap of workgroup's purpose.
2. Approval of minutes.
3. Quick overview of home visiting funding in the state.
4. Updates from the Guiding Team – meeting agendas and minutes will be posted within 72 hours; conference call # will be posted; high-level project plan template; data coordination/system;
5. Deliverable Project plan – will have a template/draft for next meeting to review.
6. Shared State RTT-ELC's work:
7. Kentucky (they've been doing family engagement work for a long time; the landscape is very different); level of family engagement is aligned with levels in QRIS; all high need schools have a School-based Family Resource Centers; embedding strengthening families protective factors framework (Center for the Study of Social Policy has an online toolkit)
8. Michigan – parent toolkit; parent coalitions; also use the strengthening families protective families factor
9. California – family engagement is embedded with their QRIS and has standards; aligned with their K-12 system; have a family engagement toolkit/framework for K-12; Kit for New Parents under their First 5 with a health promotion focus; professional development for variety of home visitor agencies.
10. Harvard Family Research Project – Family Engagement framework document.
11. The Build Initiative summarized the states RTT-ELC applications.
12. The word "engagement" is problematic. Engagement is the end-result.
13. Joyce Epstein's research emphasizes multiple ways that parents contribute in meaningful ways.

Key Questions Raised:

1. What is Indiana's family engagement involvement? We should include our state in the review process.
2. When we are engaging K-12 students and families they are already in the system; In 0-5, we don't already have the contact (especially for families)
3. This should be a client centered approach, where is the client-centered focus?
4. Would it be helpful to look at other states that are doing client-centered approach?
5. Are there frameworks and places we should go to and look for research?



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Action Steps:

1. Review the high-level project plan map and add timeline.
2. The project management team will create the state spreadsheet in Google Docs and share the file/link for the members to update “real time” and populate their state reviews. The template should be filtered by the three priorities. Between the next meeting, members will prioritize which states need a closer look.
3. Add Indiana to the spreadsheet to assess Indiana.
4. Review and present on the Strengthening Families Protective Factors.
5. All members will read the Resource Guide of research and identify the top 3 themes family engagement key items – homework for August Meeting.
6. Develop recommendations on family engagement component for PreK pilot. Need to confirm due date from Kevin Bain, Chairman.

Next Meeting

Date: 3rd Friday of every month, 12pm-2pm (a working lunch)

Location: Goodwill/NFP, 5901 Lakeside Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46278

Conference Call #: 877-219-9314, code 787-694-3606